

a few things that are necessary to make a home happy:

1. The first thing is happy hearts. It does not matter what there may be in the home, fine furniture, pictures on the walls, a piano in the parlor, a beautiful yard with pretty tress, abundance of gold, fancy dresses and clothes to wear, lots of good things to eat, all these can not make a home happy. We have known homes that have had all these and yet there was no happiness there. Where there are no happy hearts there are no happy homes. But how can there be happy hearts! Only one way, that is to have hearts that are pure and clean. "Blessed are the pure in heart," said Jesus. "Blessed" means happy, so that Jesus means to say the pure in heart are happy. He alone can give us a pure heart. Let every boy and girl ask Jesus to give them a clean pure heart, and there will be happiness in the heart and happiness in the home and happiness in the life.

2. Another thing children can do to make home happy is to be obedient. Nothing makes papa and mamma feel better than to have children obedient. Now this is not hard to do, in fact it is always easier to obey than not to obey. Sometimes perhaps you would rather not do what you are told to but if you make up your mind to do it, it will bring joy and gladness to your heart, to the heart of parents, and then there will be joy and gladness in the home. The Bible teaches children to be obedient. It says, "Honor thy father and mother, that thy days may be long on the earth." So you see this is one of the commandments, and the first one with promise. Paul too says, "Children, obey your parents in all things."

3. Still another that helps to make home happy is for every one in the home to be pleasant and kind. When boys and girls, brother and sister are ready to help one another, to do errands for one another, and to help their parents it will bring joy and sunshine into the home. When children are cross, and scold, and find fault with everything that is done, if nothing can be done right for them, then there can be no happiness in the home. There must be no selfishness, for selfishness and happiness do not go together.

4. Above all things remember that if your home is to be a happy one, Jesus must be a member of the family. He must live in each one's heart, and be a regular guest in the home. There is always happiness in the home where Jesus finds a place. Have you invited him into your hearts? He can not come to your home unless he comes to your heart first.

5. Remember then that to have a happy home, there must be, (1) Happy hearts, and to have happy hearts there must be pure hearts. (2) Obedient children. (3) Kindness to one another. (4) Helpfulness. (5) Jesus in the home.

Small thoughts may wreck great lives.

Way to be Happy

Katie had many playthings, and dolls, and also a dog, and a cat, and a canary, and a great many books, and a pony and cart; but though she had so many things to please her she was often fretful and said she did not know what to do.

One day her mother took her to see a little girl who lived in a very plain way. Her name was Ellen.

Ellen and Katie spent a happy afternoon although Ellen's only playthings were some marbles and spools and a rag doll; but Ellen was contented and happy. If Katie could learn that happiness does not come from having every wish gratified, but from a contented heart, and a mind filled with happy thoughts, she would be a better child.

Jesus Obedient to His Mother

When Jesus was twelve years old his parents took him to Jerusalem. That was a wonderful journey for the boy Jesus. He found many objects of interest in the great Jewish city, but best of all he liked the temple, and his eager mind delighted in listening to the learned men reasoning on great themes. He became so much interested in hearing them and asking them questions that he did not start for home with Joseph and Mary, his mother. After they had gone some distance his mother, wondering that he did not come, returned to the city and found her Holy Child.

Now see how obedient Jesus was to his mother. He was happy talking with the doctors of the law, and no doubt wished to hear more of their discussions, but the Bible tells us that he left them and went down to Nazareth and "was subject unto his parents."

His mother knew that a boy of twelve was safer at home than in any other place, and although he was the Son of God he went with her, and lived in her home until he was a man.

There is nothing so lovely for you to think about as the childhood of Jesus. Whenever you feel like disobeying your parents, or doing anything that seems doubtful, ask yourself this question, "What would Jesus do?"

A Band of Mercy Boy

We wish all our boys could be members of a Band of Mercy and learn to be kind and thoughtful about animals who cannot talk and tell us about their troubles. Here is a story that tells of a boy's kindness.

Bobby belonged to a Band of Mercy, and at the meetings he always listened attentively to what the leader said. So he knew that animals should be treated kindly.

One very hot day when he was going home from school at noon, he noticed a cage containing two canary birds hanging outside of an upper window of a house across the street. The hot sun was beating down upon the birds and they were feebly fluttering and cheeping, as if asking to be taken into the cool house.

"The lady has forgotten those birds, and

perhaps they'll die," thought Bobby, on the shady side of the street.

He was in a hurry to get home, and it was very hot to go over there and wait on those glittering white steps. But the birds were suffering, so he ran across and rang the bell.

When a young lady opened the door, Bobby raised his hat saying:

"Perhaps you don't know that your birds are out in the hot sun."

"Oh, I forgot to take them in!" exclaimed the young lady. "I thank you so much for telling me. Not many little boys would have thought of it."

"I'm a Band of Mercy boy," said Bobby, as he raised his hat again and ran down the steps.

The Christian Life

The Christian Life

Holy Spirit, I am longing
To know more and more of thee;
I am yearning for thy kingdom,
I would have thee reign in me.
Humbly waiting, I am praying
To be cleansed by power divine;
I am praying, precious Spirit,
That I may be wholly thine.

Holy Spirit, I am pleading
To be strengthened now with might
Though unworthy, I am asking
To be filled with love and light.
I have yielded all to thee, Lord,
I have consecrated all;
In my weakness I implore thee,
Now upon me sweetly fall.

Holy Spirit, I am coming,
In the blessed Master's name;
I am trusting in his merit
Who forever is the same.
In thy tender love and mercy
Let me now anointed be;
Let the promise of the Father
Be fulfilled just now in me.

While I tarry, Holy Spirit,
Let the heavenly fire descend;
Fill me with thy holy presence,
Let my faith now have an end;
Let me know the joy and glory
Of a soul possessed by thee;
Let me, O thou blessed Spirit,
Once for all thine wholly be.

—Melville W. Miller.

PRAYER MEETING TOPICS

THE PROPHETS—JEREMIAH—NO. I

I. Time

1. 628-588 B. C.
2. Called in thirteenth year of Josiah's reign. Jer. 1: 2.
3. Contemporary Judean kings, Josiah, Jehoahoz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin and Zedekiah.

II. Biography

1. Home.—Anothoth. Jer. 1: 1.
2. Parentage. Jer. 1: 1.
3. His case. Jer. 1: 4-10.
4. His severe task. Jer. 1: 17-19.
5. "The weeping prophet." Jer. 9: 1.
6. Had the task of prophesying evil to an iniquitous nation. Jer. 34: 2, 3.
7. "A man of strife," necessarily making his life a sad one. Jer. 15: 10.